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PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number:

07-159807

(43) Date of publication of application: 23.06.1995

(51)Int.CI.

GO2F 1/136 GO2F 1/136 G02F 1/1343 H01L 29/786

(21)Application number: 05-304985

(71)Applicant: HITACHI LTD

(22)Date of filing:

06.12.1993

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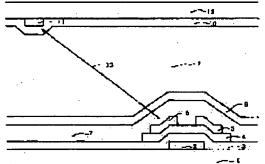
SASAKI TORU KONDO KATSUMI

(54) ACTIVE MATRIX LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain a film structure to efficiently apply an electric field on a liquid crystal layer in a liquid crystal display device of a transverse electric field system by using tantalum oxide (Ta2O5) having high relative dielectric const. as a protective film of a pixel electrode.

CONSTITUTION: The pixel part consists of a glass substrate 1 in a TFT side, scanning electrode (Cr) 2, gate insulating film (silicon nitride film) 3, semiconductor film (amorphous silicon film) 4, signal electrode (Cr) 5, pixel electrode (Cr) 6, protective film 7 for the pixel electrode, lower oriented film 8, liquid crystal layer 9, upper oriented film 10, counter electrode (Cr) 11, and counter glass substrate 12. In this film structure, tantalum oxide (Ta2O5) having rather high relative dielectric const. is used for the protective layer 7 of the pixel electrode. Since tantalum oxide has high relative dielectric const. as 23 to 27, reduction of voltage in the tantalum oxide film is decreased, and thereby, an electric field can be efficiently applied on the liquid crystal layer. As a result, the response speed is improved and the display quality of the liquid crystal display is improved.



LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The substrate of a pair at least with transparent one side, and the liquid crystal constituent layer pinched between said substrates, Two or more scan wiring and signal wiring which have been arranged in the shape of a matrix on the front face on which one substrate of said substrates faced each other, The pixel electrode which makes a pair, and the active component connected to said pixel electrode, said scan wiring, and said signal wiring, In the liquid crystal display equipped with the scan wiring driving means connected to said each scan wiring, and the signal wiring driving means connected to said each signal wiring The pixel electrode which makes said pair is a strip-of-paper-like configuration, and the direction of a long side of the electrode of one of these is almost parallel to the direction of a long side of the electrode of another side. Said active component is said scan wiring of those other than a connection terminal area with an external module and said signal wiring, said pixel electrode, and an active matrix liquid crystal display characterized by being covered by tantalum oxide (Ta 2O5).

[Claim 2] The active matrix liquid crystal display said whose active component according to claim 1 is the diode which consists of a thin film transistor, or a metal / insulator layer / metal.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Industrial Application] This invention relates to an active matrix liquid crystal display high-definition by low cost.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] In the conventional active matrix liquid crystal display, the transparent electrode which formed on the two substrates interface as an electrode which drives a liquid crystal constituent layer, and carried out phase opposite was used. This is based on the reason for using the means of displaying represented by the Twisted Nematic (TN) means of displaying which operates by making into a direction almost perpendicular to a substrate interface the direction of the electric field impressed to a liquid crystal constituent layer. Hereafter, the means of displaying whose main direction of electric field impressed to a liquid crystal constituent layer is a direction almost perpendicular to a substrate interface is called a vertical electric-field method.

[0003] Moreover, the method which impresses electric field to a liquid crystal constituent layer using the ctenidium-like electrode pair formed on one substrate is proposed by JP,63-21907,B. The ctenidium-like electrode pair said here is arranged so that it may gear without the part of a mutual gear tooth lapping two electrodes which have a configuration like 32 in drawing 5, and the gear tooth of a comb as shown by 33. In this case, the electrode which drives a liquid crystal constituent layer does not need to be transparent, and can use an opaque metal electrode. Hereafter, the means of displaying whose main direction of electric field impressed to a liquid crystal constituent layer is a direction almost parallel to a substrate interface is called a horizontal electric-field method. Here, since, as for a horizontal electric-field method, a viewing angle is expanded compared with a vertical electric-field method, high definition is obtained. Change of brightness when this of the major axis of a liquid crystal molecule is always almost parallel to a substrate, and does not start, therefore changes the viewing-angle direction by the horizontal electric-field method is based on a small reason.

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] Although it was important to impress electric field to a liquid crystal layer efficiently since the distance of a pixel electrode and a counterelectrode was set also to dozens of micrometers when 10" of liquid crystal displays of a class was taken into consideration by the abovementioned horizontal electric-field method, it was not taken into consideration by this point with the conventional technique. Usually, since a voltage drop produces the electrical potential difference VSB impressed between a pixel electrode / counterelectrode between the protective coat of a pixel electrode, and the orientation film, the electrical potential difference impressed to a liquid crystal layer becomes lower than VSB. Since the specific inductive capacity of especially the silicon nitride film conventionally used as a protective coat of a pixel electrode is as low as 6-7, the voltage drop produced between silicon nitride films becomes large. The purpose of this invention is the liquid crystal display of a horizontal electric-field method, and it is in offering the film configuration for impressing electric field to a liquid crystal layer efficiently. In addition, in the liquid crystal display of a vertical electric-field method mainly used until now, since the distance of a pixel electrode and a counterelectrode is 10 micrometers or less, the above-mentioned trouble can be disregarded.

[0005]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to attain the above-mentioned purpose, this invention The substrate of a pair at least with transparent one side, The liquid crystal constituent layer pinched between said substrates, and two or more scan wiring and signal wiring which have been arranged in the shape of a

matrix on the front face on which one substrate of said substrates faced each other, The pixel electrode which makes a pair, and the active component connected to said pixel electrode, said scan wiring, and said signal wiring, With the liquid crystal display equipped with the scan wiring driving means connected to said each scan wiring, and the signal wiring driving means connected to said each signal wiring The pixel electrode which makes said pair is a strip-of-paper-like configuration, and the direction of a long side of the electrode of one of these is almost parallel to the direction of a long side of the electrode of another side. Said scan wiring of those other than a connection terminal area with an external module and said signal wiring, said pixel electrode, and the active component are covered by tantalum oxide (Ta 2O5). [0006]

[Function] With the above-mentioned film configuration, tantalum oxide (Ta 2O5) is used for the protective coat of a pixel electrode. Here, since the specific inductive capacity of tantalum oxide is as high as 23-27, the voltage drop produced between tantalum oxide film becomes small. Therefore, it becomes possible to impress electric field to a liquid crystal layer efficiently. In this invention, in order to use tantalum oxide (Ta 2O5) for the protective coat of a pixel electrode, since electric field can be efficiently impressed to a liquid crystal layer, consequently a speed of response is improved, the display quality of a liquid crystal display improves.

[0007]

[Example] <u>Drawing 1</u> is the example of the cross-section structure of the picture element part at the time of using this invention. All over drawing, one Cr (scan electrode) and 3 for the TFT side glass substrate and 2 A silicon nitride film (gate dielectric film), 4 Cr (signal electrode) and 6 for an amorphous silicone film (semi-conductor film) and 5 Cr (pixel electrode), 7 -- Ta2O -- 5 (protective coat of a pixel electrode) and 8 show the lower orientation film and the sense of the electric field by which Cr (counterelectrode) and 12 are impressed to an opposite glass substrate, and 13 is impressed [9 / a liquid crystal layer and 10] to liquid crystal for the upside orientation film and 11. Here, the electrical equivalent circuit between the pixel electrode 6 and a counterelectrode 11 becomes the series capacitance of the capacity 24 of capacity 22 / liquid crystal capacity 23 / up orientation film of capacity 21 / lower orientation film of the protective coat of a pixel electrode, as shown in <u>drawing 2</u>. With the film configuration of this invention, Ta 2O5 with comparatively high specific inductive capacity is used for the protective coat of a pixel electrode. Here, since the specific inductive capacity of tantalum oxide is as high as 23-27, the voltage drop produced between tantalum oxide film becomes small. Therefore, it becomes possible to impress electric field to a liquid crystal layer efficiently. Consequently, since a speed of response is improved, the display quality of a liquid crystal display improves.

[0008] <u>Drawing 3</u> shows the example of the flat-surface pattern of the picture element part at the time of using this invention. As shown all over drawing, electric field are mainly impressed to the liquid crystal layer which it has between the 6/counterelectrodes 11 of pixel electrodes almost in parallel with a substrate interface. Moreover, although not indicated all over drawing, all over a picture element part, tantalum oxide has deposited as a protective coat of scan wiring and said signal wiring, a pixel electrode, and an active component.

[0009] <u>Drawing 4</u> shows the second example of the cross-section structure of the picture element part at the time of using this invention. This example is an example at the time of using the thin-film diode which consists of a metal / an insulator layer / a metal as an active component. Also by this example, as shown all over drawing, tantalum oxide 7 is used as a protective coat of a pixel electrode. Therefore, it becomes possible to impress electric field to a liquid crystal layer efficiently for the above-mentioned reason. Consequently, since a speed of response is improved, the display quality of a liquid crystal display improves.

[0010]

[Effect of the Invention] According to this invention, the tantalum oxide (Ta 2O5) which has high specific inductive capacity is used for the protective coat of a pixel electrode with the liquid crystal display of a horizontal electric-field method. By this, since the voltage drop in the protective coat of a pixel electrode becomes small, it can impress electric field to a liquid crystal layer efficiently, consequently its display quality of a liquid crystal display improves.

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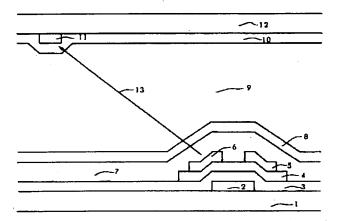
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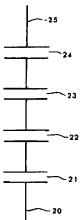
DRAWINGS

[Drawing 1]

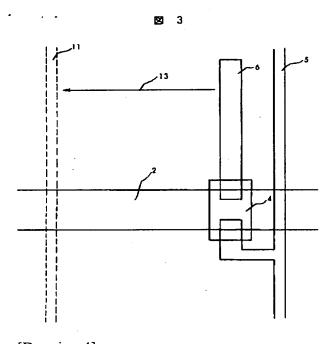


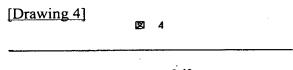


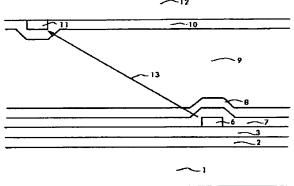
[Drawing 2]



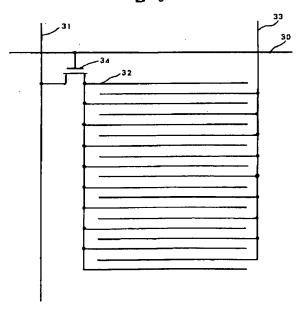
[Drawing 3]







[Drawing 5]



(19)日本国特許庁 (JP) (12) 公開特許公報 (A)

(11)特許出願公開番号

特開平7-159807

(43)公開日 平成7年(1995)6月23日

(51) Int.Cl. ⁶ 裁別記		庁内整理番号	F I		技術表示箇所	
G02F 1/136	500					
	510				•	
1/1343					·	
H01L 29/786		0050 43.5	****	00/70 011	N	
		9056-4M		29/78 311	N OL (全 4 頁)	
	•		在江南水	未請求 請求項の数2	OL (主 4 貝)	
(21)出願番号	特願平5-304985		(71)出願人	000005108		
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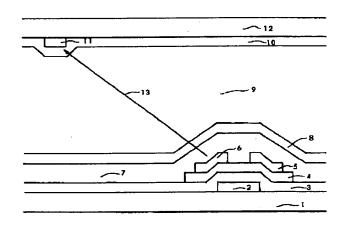
(54) 【発明の名称】 アクティブマトリクス型液晶表示装置

(57)【要約】

【目的】横電界方式のアクティブマトリクス型液晶表示 装置で、液晶層に効率よく電界を印加するための膜構成 を提供する。

【構成】外部モジュールとの接続端子部以外の走査配 線,信号配線,画素電極6、及びアクティブ素子はタン タルオキサイド (Ta₂O₅) 7で覆われている。





1

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】少なくとも一方が透明な一対の基板と、前記基板間に挟持された液晶組成物層と、前記基板のいずれか一方の基板の向き合った表面にマトリクス状に配置された複数の走査配線および信号配線と、対をなす画素電極と、前記画素電極,前記走査配線および前記信号配線に接続されたアクティブ素子と、前記各走査配線に接続された走査配線駆動手段と、前記各信号配線に接続された信号配線駆動手段とを備えた液晶表示装置において、

前記対をなす画素電極が短冊状の形状であり、その一方の電極の長辺方向が他方の電極の長辺方向とほぼ平行であって、

外部モジュールとの接続端子部以外の前記走査配線および前記信号配線,前記画素電極,前記アクティブ素子はタンタルオキサイド(Ta₂O₅)で覆われていることを特徴とするアクティブマトリクス型液晶表示装置。

【請求項2】請求項1に記載の前記アクティブ素子が、 薄膜トランジスタ、あるいは金属/絶縁膜/金属で構成 されるダイオードであるアクティブマトリクス型液晶表 示装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【産業上の利用分野】本発明は、低コストで高画質のアクティブマトリクス型液晶表示装置に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】従来のアクティブマトリクス型液晶表示装置では、液晶組成物層を駆動する電極として二枚の基板界面上に形成し相対向させた透明電極を用いていた。これは、液晶組成物層に印加する電界の方向を基板界面にほぼ垂直な方向とすることで動作する、ツイステッドネマチック(TN)表示方式に代表される表示方式を用いている理由によるものである。以下、液晶組成物層に印加する主たる電界方向が基板界面にほぼ垂直な方向である表示方式を縦電界方式と称する。

【0003】また、一方の基板上に形成した櫛歯状電極対を用いて液晶組成物層に電界を印加する方式が、例えば、特公昭63-21907 号公報により提案されている。ここで言う櫛歯状電極対は、図5中の32,33で示すような櫛の歯のような形状を有する二つの電極を互いの歯をを互いの歯の部分が重ならずに噛み合うように配置したものである。この場合、液晶組成物層を駆動する電極は透明である。以下、液晶組成物層に印加する主たる電界方向である必要はなく、不透明な金属電極を用いることができる。以下、液晶組成物層に印加する主たる電界方向がある。以下、横電界方式は縦電界方式と比べて視角が拡大されるので、荷電野が得られる。これは、横電界方式では液晶分子の長軸は基板と常にほぼ平行であり、立ち上がることがなく、従って視角方向を変えた時の明るさの変化が小さい理由による。

2

[0004]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】上記横電界方式では、 10″クラスの液晶ディスプレイを考慮した場合、画素 電極と対向電極との距離が数十μmにもなるため、液晶 層に効率よく電界を印加することが重要であるが、従来 技術では、この点に考慮されていなかった。通常、画素 電極/対向電極間に印加される電圧V SBは、画素電極の 保護膜、配向膜間で電圧降下が生じるため、液晶層に印 加される電圧はVSBよりも低くなる。特に、従来、画素 電極の保護膜として用いられている窒化シリコン膜は比 誘電率は6~7と低いため、窒化シリコン膜間で生じる 電圧降下は大きくなる。本発明の目的は横電界方式の液 晶表示装置で、液晶層に効率よく電界を印加するための 膜構成を提供することにある。なお、これまで主に用い られている縦電界方式の液晶表示装置では、画素電極と 対向電極との距離が10μm以下なので、前述の問題点 は無視できる。

[0005]

【課題を解決するための手段】上記目的を達成するため、本発明は少なくとも一方が透明な一対の基板と、前記基板間に挟持された液晶組成物層と、前記基板のいずれか一方の基板の向き合った表面にマトリクス状に配置された複数の走査配線および信号配線と、対をなす画素電極と、前記走査配線および前記信号配線に接続された走査配線駆動手段と、前記各信号配線に接続された信号配線駆動手段と、前記各信号配線に接続された信号配線駆動手段とを備えた液晶表示装置で、前記対をなす画素電極が短冊状の形状であり、その一方の電極の長辺方向が他方の電極の長辺方向とほぼ平行であって、外部モジュールとの接続端子部以外の前記走査配線および前記信号配線、前記画素電極、アクティブ素子はタンタルオキサイド(Ta2O5)で覆われている。

[0006]

【作用】上記膜構成では、画素電極の保護膜にタンタルオキサイド(Ta_2O_5)を用いている。ここで、タンタルオキサイドの比誘電率は $23\sim2$ 7と高いため、タンタルオキサイド膜間で生じる電圧降下は小さくなる。したがって、液晶層に効率よく電界を印加することが可能になる。本発明では画素電極の保護膜にタンタルオキサイド(Ta_2O_5)を用いるため、液晶層に効率よく電界を印加することができ、その結果、応答速度が改善されるので液晶ディスプレイの表示品質が向上する。

[0007]

【実施例】図1は本発明を用いた場合の画素部の断面構造の実施例である。図中で、1はTFT側ガラス基板、2はCr(走査電極)、3は窒化シリコン膜(ゲート絶縁膜)、4は非晶質シリコン膜(半導体膜)、5はCr(信号電極)、6はCr(画素電極)、7はTa2O5(画素電極の保護膜)、8は下部の配向膜、9は液晶60層、10は上部の配向膜、11はCr(対向電極)、1

.3

2は対向ガラス基板、13は液晶に印加される電界の向きを示したものである。ここで、画素電極6,対向電極11間の電気的等価回路は図2に示すように、画素電極の保護膜の容量21/下部配向膜の容量22/液晶容量23/上部配向膜の容量24の直列容量になる。本発明の膜構成では、画素電極の保護膜に比較的比誘電率の高いTa205を用いている。ここで、タンタルオキサイドの比誘電率は23~27と高いため、タンタルオキサイド 膜間で生じる電圧降下は小さくなる。したがって、液晶層に効率よく電界を印加することが可能になる。その結果、応答速度が改善されるので液晶ディスプレイの表示品質が向上する。

【0008】図3は本発明を用いた場合の画素部の平面パターンの実施例を示したものである。図中に示すように、画素電極6/対向電極11間に備えられている液晶層には、主に電界は基板界面にほぼ平行に印加される。また、図中には記載していないが、画素部全面にはタンタルオキサイドが走査配線および前記信号配線、画素電極、アクティブ素子の保護膜として、堆積している。

【0009】図4は本発明を用いた場合の画素部の断面構造の第二実施例を示したものである。本実施例はアクティブ素子として金属/絶縁膜/金属から構成される薄膜ダイオードを用いた場合の実施例である。本実施例でも、図中に示すように、タンタルオキサイド7を画素電

極の保護膜として用いている。したがって、前述の理由 により液晶層に効率よく電界を印加することが可能にな る。その結果、応答速度が改善されるので液晶ディスプ レイの表示品質が向上する。

[0010]

【発明の効果】本発明によれば、横電界方式の液晶表示装置で、画素電極の保護膜に高い比誘電率を有するタンタルオキサイド (Ta2O5)を用いる。このことにより、画素電極の保護膜での電圧降下は小さくなるので、液晶層に効率よく電界を印加することができ、その結果、液晶ディスプレイの表示品質が向上する。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の画素部の断面図。

【図2】画素電極,対向電極間の等価回路図。

【図3】本発明の画素部の平面パターンの説明図。

【図4】本発明の画素部の第二実施例の断面図。

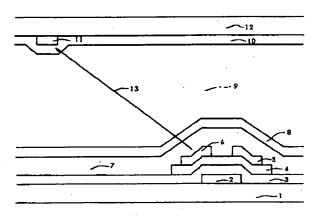
【図5】従来の画素の説明図。

【符号の説明】

1…TFT側ガラス基板、2…Cr (走査電極)、3… 窒化シリコン膜(ゲート絶縁膜)、4…非晶質シリコン 膜 (半導体膜)、5…Cr (信号電極)、6…Cr (画 素電極)、7…Ta₂O₅ (TFT保護膜)、8…配向 膜、9…液晶、10…配向膜、11…Cr (対向電 極)、12…対向ガラス基板、13…電界の向き。

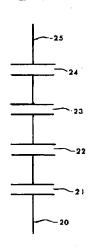
【図1】

9 1



【図2】

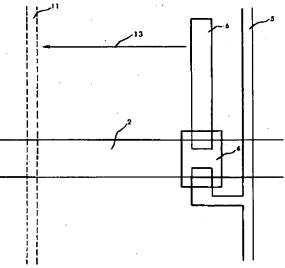
en 2



(4)

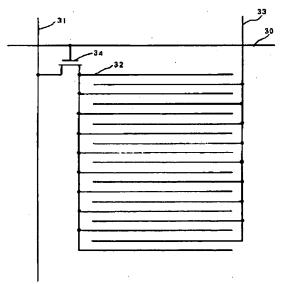






【図5】





[図4]

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